Claims

1. An oral dosage form comprising oxcarbazepine adapted to be administered once a day.

2. The oral dosage form comprising oxcarbazepine according to claim 1 which, when administered once a day, is released to produce constant MHD plasma levels over 24 hours.

3. The oral dosage form according to claim 1 or 2 consisting of a tablet core and a coating wherein the core comprises oxcarbazepine, optionally, a filler, and at least one further excipient selected from cellulose ethers, carboxyvinyl polymer of acrylic acid cross linked with alkyl ethers of sucrose or pentaerythritol and polymethacrylates.

4. The oral dosage form according to claim 3 wherein a cellulose ether is employed which is hydroxypropyl methyl cellulose.

5. The oral dosage form according to claim 4 wherein the weight ratio of total hydroxypropyl-methyl cellulose to oxcarbazepine is from about 1:10 to about 1:20.

6. The oral dosage form according to claim 3 wherein a cellulose ether is employed which is ethyl cellulose.

7. The oral dosage form according to claim 6 wherein the weight ratio of total ethyl cellulose to oxcarbazepine is from about 1:10 to about 1:20.

8. The oral dosage form according to claim 3 comprising a polymethacrylate which is trimethylammonium methacrylate.

9. The oral dosage form according to any one of claims 3 to 8 comprising as a filler microcrystalline cellulose.

10. The oral dosage form according to any one of claims 1 to 9 having a 80% or greater release of the oxcarbazepine dose within 1 hour indicated in standard in vitro dissolution

tests at 37 degrees Celsius in water using sodium dodecyl sulphate as a solubilizing agent at a concentration of 1% for a 600 mg dosage form.

11. The oral dosage form according to any one of claims 1 to 10 releasing oxcarbazepine at a constant release rate for 4 hours or more as indicated in standard in vitro dissolution tests at 37 degrees Celsius in water using sodium dodecyl sulphate as a solubilizing agent at a concentration of 1% for a 600 mg dosage form.

12. The oral dosage form according to claim 11 releasing about 80 % of oxcarbazepine within 8 hours.

13. An oral dosage form comprising oxcarbazepine which, when administered once a day, is released to produce constant MHD plasma levels over 24 hours.

14. Use of oxcarbazepine for the manufacture of an oral dosage form medicament to be administered to a patient once a day wherein oxcarbazepine is released to produce a constant profile over 24 hours for the treatment of epilepsy.

15. Use of oxcarbazepine for the manufacture of an oral dosage form medicament according to any one of claims 1 to 13 for the treatment of epilepsy.

16. A method of orally administering oxcarbazepine, e.g., for the treatment of epilepsy, said method comprising orally administering to a patient in need of oxcarbazepine therapy once-a-day an oral dosage form of any one of claims 1 to 13.

17. A method of reducing the variability of bioavailability levels of cyclosporin A for patients during oxcarbazepine therapy, said method comprising orally administering to a patient in need of oxcarbazepine therapy an oral dosage form of any one of claims 1 to 13.